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THE EDITOR of this JOURNAL would be glad to receive any items of general interest in regard to local events, or matters that it is desirable to call to the attention of the profession. Letters written for publication or containing items of information, should be accompanied by the writer's full name and address, although not necessarily to be published. All communications in regard to editorial work should be addressed to the Editor.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 1884.

COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION OF DISEASE.—As stated in the minutes of the recent meeting of the American Medical Association, published in the JOURNAL of May 24, page 572, the invitation extended by the General Collective Investigation of Disease Committee of the British Medical Association, to coöperate by establishing similar work in this country, was accepted, and the President was requested to appoint a committee of seven members of the Association to take charge of the subject. The President did not announce the names of the committee at the time, and consequently they do not appear in the published minutes. He has since, however, authorized the appointment of the following members to constitute the general committee:

N. S. Davis, Chicago, Ill.; H. O. Marcy, Boston, Mass.; James Tyson, Philadelphia, Pa.; H. B. Baker, Lansing, Mich.; F. D. Cunningham, Richmond, Va.; S. E. Chaillé, New Orleans, La.; and Thos. F. Wood, Wilmington, N. C.

This committee was authorized by the Association to enter into correspondence and coöperation with the General Committee of the British Medical Association; to appoint, either directly or through the agency of the State Medical Societies, subordinate committees in the several States; and to adopt such measures as would best secure the efficient execution of a plan for the Collective Investigation of Disease in this country, so nearly parallel with that established in Great Britain, that the results in the two countries would be capable of mutual interchange and comparison. The State Medical Societies of Pennsyl-

vania and Illinois, and perhaps some of the other States, have already appointed committees on the same subject for organizing the work in their respective States. It is desirable that all such committees appointed by State or local societies, put themselves in correspondence immediately with the above general committee, for the purpose of securing concert of action, economy in both labor and expenditure, and the greatest degree of efficiency in the practical execution of the work.

LEGAL DECISIONS AND THE ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.—In another part of this number of the JOURNAL will be found a brief notice of two cases recently adjudicated in this State, one arising under a law creating a State Board of Examiners for licensing parties to practice dentistry, similar to the law regulating the practice of medicine, and the other under the last named law. In the first, the direct question brought before the court, was, whether the State Board had the right to go beyond the fact that a dental college was a legally chartered institution, and define what should be the extent of its curriculum or requirements for graduation, and exact compliance with its definition, before granting licenses to the graduates of such college? The decision of the court sustained the authority of the Board. On the same principles it would sustain fully the State Board of Health in enforcing its authority to define what should constitute a medical college on whose diploma a license to practice medicine should be given. In the second case the question presented to the court was, whether under the law regulating the practice of medicine in Illinois, the State Board of Health had the right to refuse a license to a party presenting a diploma from a medical College acknowledged to be in good standing, on the ground of unprofessional conduct on the part of the applicant himself? This was also decided in the affirmative by the court. These decisions are important, not only because they will add to the influence which such State Boards are capable of exerting over the medical colleges, but equally so in showing a disposition on the part of the courts to protect the people from the impositions of men guilty of unprofessional conduct and false pretenses before the public.

NEW JERSEY STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY.—This, the oldest State Medical Society in this country, will hold its one hundred and eighteenth annual meeting, in the Stockton House, Cape May, on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 10 and 11, 1884. President,